

The Sub-Committee supports these views of the witnesses as well as the Task Force's suggestion. Members believe that a consultative council could be a very effective organization. They maintain, however, that unless there is a substantive change to the mandate and authority of Sport Canada, such a council would simply provide an additional layer of bureaucracy. As well, they believe that if the consultative council were given the appropriate authority, autonomy and direction, it could be the ideal forum for providing and coordinating leadership and direction for amateur sport in the future.

The Sub-Committee therefore recommends:

- 16. That the Minister of State for Fitness and Amateur Sport signal his willingness to share leadership by establishing a consultative group including representatives of athletes, coaches, NSOs, multi-sport organizations and the community.**
- 17. That a consultative council be created with the authority and the autonomy for providing and coordinating future leadership and direction for amateur sport.**

The members of the Sub-Committee believe that such a council could assume various responsibilities within the sports system. Its involvement in public financing will be discussed in more detail in the chapter focusing on the role of government.

D. Anti-Doping Policy

Commenting on the use of drugs and banned practices intended to increase athletic performance, the Dubin Report makes recommendations on the following issues: out-of-competition testing, laboratory monopoly, competition and doping control, doping control appeals, and the role of the Sport Medicine Council. The members of the Sub-Committee reviewed the Dubin recommendations on anti-doping policy as well as Fitness and Amateur Sport's *Discussion Paper Prepared for Consultation on the Dubin Report*. The situation described in those documents implies possible damage to the health of athletes using drugs and, therefore, the Sub-Committee endorses the Discussion Paper's guiding principle for a Canadian anti-doping strategy:

There is unequivocal support for the health and welfare of the athletes and opposition to any actions not in the best interests of the individual athlete.⁽¹⁴⁾

⁽¹⁴⁾ Discussion Paper, p. 36.